

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~television~~ television signal receiving apparatus having an emergency alert function, comprising:

memory means for storing data associated with said emergency alert function;
tuning means for tuning signals including emergency alert signals ~~capable of activating~~ associated with said emergency alert function;
interface means for disabling an audio output device associated with said television signal receiving apparatus; and
processing means for:
comparing data included in said emergency alert signals to data stored in
said memory means to make a determination that said emergency alert function is
activated;
switching said emergency alert function to an 'on' mode responsive to said
determination that said emergency alert function is activated;
determining whether said audio output device has been disabled via said
interface means; and
enabling said audio output device associated with said television signal
receiving apparatus responsive to ~~activation of~~ said determination that said
emergency alert function is activated ~~if and to said determination that~~ said audio
output device has been disabled via said interface means.

2. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said disabled audio output device includes an internal speaker of said apparatus.

3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said disabled audio output device is operatively connected to an audio output terminal of said apparatus.

4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said processing means further enables a first alert output via said audio output device responsive to activation of said emergency alert function.

5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein said processing means

further enables a second alert output via a secondary device responsive to activation of said emergency alert function.

6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein said secondary device includes a telephone.

7. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein said secondary device includes a computer.

8. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein said secondary device includes a television signal receiver.

9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein said secondary device includes a visual output device.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling ~~an~~ television signal receiving apparatus having an emergency alert function, comprising:
 tuning signals including emergency alert signals ~~capable of activating~~ associated with said emergency alert function;
 comparing data included in said emergency alert signals to data stored in a memory of said television signal receiving apparatus to make a determination that said emergency alert function is activated;
 switching said emergency alert function to an 'on' mode responsive to said determination that said emergency alert function is activated;
 determining whether an audio output device associated with said television signal receiving apparatus has been disabled via an interface of said television signal receiving apparatus; and
 enabling a said disabled audio output device associated with said television signal receiving apparatus responsive to ~~activation of said determination that~~ said emergency alert function is activated and to said determination that; wherein said audio output device had ~~previously~~ been disabled by a user through ~~an~~ said interface.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said disabled audio output device includes an internal speaker of said apparatus.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said disabled audio output device is operatively connected to an audio output terminal of said apparatus.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, further comprised of enabling a first alert output via said audio output device responsive to activation of said emergency alert function.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, further comprised of enabling a second alert output via a secondary device responsive to activation of said emergency alert function.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein said secondary device includes a telephone.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein said secondary device includes a computer.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein said secondary device includes a television signal receiver.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein said secondary device includes a visual output device.

19. (Currently Amended) A television signal receiver having an emergency alert function, comprising:

a tuner operative to tune signals including emergency alert signals ~~capable of activating~~ associated with said emergency alert function;

a memory;

an interface for disabling an audio output device associated with said television signal receiving apparatus; and

a processor operative to:

compare data included in said emergency alert signals to data stored in said memory to make a determination that said emergency alert function is activated;

switch said emergency alert function to an 'on' mode responsive to said determination that said emergency alert function is activated;

determine whether said audio output device has been disabled via said interface; and

enable a said disabled audio output device associated with said television signal receiver, said audio output device having previously been disabled by a user

~~through an interface, responsive to activation of said determination that said~~
emergency alert function is activated and to said determination that said audio
output device has been disabled via said interface.

20. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 19, wherein said disabled audio output device includes an internal speaker of said television signal receiver.

21. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 19, wherein said disabled audio output device is operatively connected to an audio output terminal of said television signal receiver.

22. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 19, wherein said processor is further operative to enable a first alert output via said audio output device responsive to activation of said emergency alert function.

23. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 22, wherein said processor is further operative to enable a second alert output via a secondary device responsive to activation of said emergency alert function.

24. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 23, wherein said secondary device includes a telephone.

25. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 23, wherein said secondary device includes a computer.

26. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 23, wherein said secondary device includes a television signal receiver.

27. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 23, wherein said secondary device includes a visual output device.